

COMPUTER IMPLEMENTED METHOD FOR CONTROLLING DOCUMENT EDITS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The method of the present invention simplifies and streamlines the tasks that
5 must be carried out in order to prepare and control electronic documents such as patent
applications. In one embodiment, the computer-implemented method of the present
invention includes storing a plurality of alterable electronic documents on a computer system,
the plurality of electronic documents being associated with a patent application, generating a
first signal indicating that one or more of the electronic documents are to be filed to a patent
10 office, and automatically locking the one or more electronic document so that the documents
cannot be altered. In another embodiment, electronic documents may be associated with a
package and automatically locked when a user transmits a signal indicating that the package
has been transferred from a first phase to a second phase.

PA 3185980 v1